

*7-11 & Southland Corp. case  
12/6/05*UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS

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PATRICIA A. FENTON, EXECUTRIX  
of the ESTATE OF WILLIAM IRVING,  
Plaintiff

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v.

C. A. No. 05-10054-EFH

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7-ELEVEN, INC., and THE  
SOUTHLAND CORPORATION,  
Defendants

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**AMENDED COMPLAINT****JURISDICTION**

1. The Court has jurisdiction over this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 1332, in that plaintiff, PATRICIA A. FENTON, is the duly appointed Executrix of the Estate of WILLIAM IRVING ("plaintiff's decedent"), plaintiff's decedent was a citizen of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the defendants, 7-ELEVEN, INC., and THE SOUTHLAND CORPORATION, are each citizens of the State of Texas, and the amount in controversy exceeds \$75,000, exclusive of interest and costs.
2. The Court has jurisdiction over the defendant 7-ELEVEN, INC. under Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 223A, §3(a),(b) & (c), in that the defendant, at all relevant times, transacted business, contracted to supply services, and caused tortious injury by acts and omissions, in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.
3. The Court also has jurisdiction over the defendant, THE SOUTHLAND CORPORATION , under Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 223A, §3(e), in

that this defendant, at all relevant times, had an interest in, used, and possessed real property in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

### PARTIES

4. The plaintiff, PATRICIA A. FENTON, was duly appointed Executrix of the Estate of William Irving ("plaintiff's decedent"), by the Middlesex Probate and Family Court Department, Docket No. 05P3918EP1, on November 25, 2005.
5. Plaintiff's decedent, WILLIAM IRVING ("WILLIAM"), was a citizen of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, with an usual place of residence at 20 Hemlock Lane, Bedford, Massachusetts.
6. The defendant, 7-ELEVEN, INC. ("7-ELEVEN"), is a citizen of the State of Texas, being a corporation duly organized under its laws, and having its principal place of business at 2711 North Haskell Avenue, Dallas, Texas.
7. The defendant, THE SOUTHLAND CORPORATION ("SOUTHLAND") is a citizen of Texas, being a corporation duly organized under its laws, and having its principal place of business at 2711 North Haskell Avenue, Dallas, Texas.

### STATEMENT OF FACTS

8. At all times relevant to this action, the defendant SOUTHLAND was the owner of a Seven Eleven Convenience Store located at 826 Boston Road, Billerica, Massachusetts ("The Store").
9. At all times relevant to this action, the defendant 7-ELEVEN was responsible for the operation, supervision, control and management of the store.
10. At all times relevant to this action, plaintiff's decedent WILLIAM was lawfully in the parking lot of the store, as a customer of The Store.

11. On or about January 13, 2002, plaintiff's decedent, WILLIAM, while lawfully on the premises as a potential customer, slipped and fell upon a walkway leading to the store, owned, operated, controlled, managed and maintained by the defendants 7-ELEVEN and SOUTHLAND.
12. Plaintiff's decedent, WILLIAM, slipped and fell because of an unnatural accumulation of rain, ice and snow, which was present in said condition for a sufficient length of time so that it should have been seen by the defendants.
13. As a direct and proximate result of the defendants' negligence, the premises were in a dangerous and unsafe condition, causing plaintiff's decedent, WILLIAM, while he was in the exercise of due care, to fall and to suffer permanent injuries.
14. The defendants were under a duty to operate, control, manage and maintain the premises in a safe condition for business invitees and to make reasonable inspection of said premises to discover conditions presenting dangers to said invitees.
15. Plaintiff's decedent's injuries were a direct result of the failure of the defendants, their agents and employees, to maintain the parking lot and sidewalk around the store in a safe and proper condition.
16. The defendants failed to protect persons lawfully on the premises outside the store from reasonably foreseeable harm as a result of the condition of the sidewalk and parking lot.
17. The defendants knew, or in the exercise of reasonable care should have known, about the condition of the area outside the store prior to this accident.
18. The defendants breached said duty of care by failing to maintain the premises in

a safe condition and by failing to make reasonable inspections to discover those dangers which they knew or should have known to exist on said premises.

19. The defendants failed to warn plaintiff's decedent of this danger.
20. As a direct and proximate result of the defendants 7-ELEVEN and SOUTHLAND's negligence, plaintiff's decedent, WILLIAM, was caused to fall and was grievously injured, suffered great pain of body and anguish of mind, and incurred expenses for medical treatment and care.
21. As a result of the defendants' negligence, plaintiff's decedent WILLIAM was seriously and permanently injured, suffered from his injuries, which affected all aspects of his life.
22. Plaintiff's decedent gave proper and timely notice to the defendants of his injuries as required by Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 84, §§17 - 21.

#### **CLAIMS FOR RELIEF**

##### **FIRST CLAIM**

23. Plaintiff realleges paragraphs 1 through 22.
24. As a direct and proximate result of the defendant 7-ELEVEN, INC.'s negligence, plaintiff's decedent, WILLIAM IRVING, was caused to fall and was grievously injured, suffered great pain of body and anguish of mind, and incurred expenses for medical treatment and care.

##### **SECOND CLAIM**

25. Plaintiff realleges paragraphs 1 through 22.
26. As a direct and proximate result of the defendant THE SOUTHLAND CORPORATION's negligence, plaintiff's decedent, WILLIAM IRVING, was caused

to fall and was grievously injured, suffered great pain of body and anguish of mind, and incurred expenses for medical treatment and care.

**RELIEF REQUESTED**

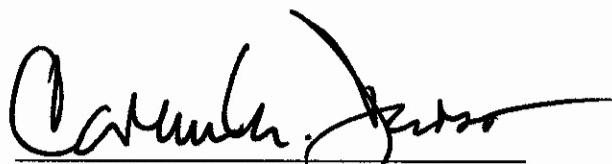
WHEREFORE, the plaintiff demands judgment against the defendants as follows:

A. On the First Claim, against defendant 7-ELEVEN, Inc., for the injuries sustained, and the pain and suffering endured, by plaintiff's decedent, WILLIAM IRVING, in an amount which is fair, just and adequate for the injuries sustained, plus interest and costs.

B. On the Second Claim, against defendant, THE SOUTHLAND CORPORATION , for the injuries sustained, and the pain and suffering endured, by plaintiff's decedent, WILLIAM IRVING, in an amount which is fair, just and adequate for the injuries sustained, plus interest and costs.

**PLAINTIFF DEMANDS A TRIAL BY JURY ON ALL CLAIMS.**

By her Attorney,



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